



November 10, 2004

Dear Independent Review Committee and Trust Beneficiaries,

As an important step in the Independent Review Committee process, the Department asked the Beneficiaries to identify issues, questions or information needs. The attached document is the DNR response. As specified in the Independent Review Charter, the answers will appear in the Appendix of the Final Report to the Commissioner of Public Lands.

To help us answer the questions, they were placed into categories. The following categories are used:

- *Questions about Comparability;*
- *Questions about History and Current Status; and*
- *Questions about the Future and Projections.*

A number of the questions were very similar. Some questions/issues were identical. We have attempted to preserve the essential nature of the question. Some questions were re-stated; the purposes of the re-statements were to consolidate very similar questions and/or to clarify the question to facilitate a more precise answer.

For your reference, the original questions submitted to the Department are attached to the end of this document.

I want to thank everyone who took the time to pose the questions. In conjunction with the Briefing Material for the Independent Review Committee Volumes 1, 2 and 3, available on-line at http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/agency/independent_review/, the Department feels we have made a complete and thorough effort to provide the requested information.

If you have questions, please contact Jack Hulsey at 360-902-1401, jack.hulsey@wadnr.gov or myself at 360-902-1684, jed.herman@wadnr.gov.

Respectfully,



Jed P. Herman